

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LONDON 13763 251216Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-09 SOE-02 DODE-00
DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PM-05 SAS-02 PA-01
/121 W

-----106549 260047Z /21

R 251210Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9475

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: TECH, UK, MNUC
SUBJ: ALDERMASTON PLUTONIUM PLANT CLOSED

REF: LONDON 1330L

1. HEADLINED STORY IN TIMES REPORTS MOD DECISION TO
CLOSE ALL FACILITIES WHERE PLUTONIUM IS USED AT THE
ATOMIC WEAPONS RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT AT ALDERMASTON,
"UNTIL STAFF WORKING ON THE FACILITIES CAN BE GIVEN
ASSURANCES ON THEIR RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH STATE."

2. THE MINISTRY ATTRIBUTED CLOSURE DECISION TO UNION
PRESSURES. CLOSURE MAY CONTINUE FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.
SIR EDWIN POCHIN, A SENIOR RADIOLOGIST COMMENCED TWO
DAYS AGO ON ENQUIRY INTO HEALTH HAZARDS AT THE PLANT.

3. COMMENT: THE MOD WAS CLEARLY CAUGHT OFF GUARD BY
THE INITIAL STORIES OF RADIOLOGICAL HAZARDS AT ALDER-
MASTON, AND WAS SLOW TO REACT. WHILE PRESS STORIES
CONTINUE TO SUGGEST POOR SAFETY MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AT
ALDERMASTON, MOD HAS YET TO MAKE ANY PUBLIC STATEMENT
OTHER THAN THE ANNOUNCED CLOSURE.

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STREATOR

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PLUTONIUM, RESEARCH, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, CLOSURE OF OFFICES, NUCLEAR WEAPONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LONDON13763
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780349-0567
Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780824/aaaaatqr.tel
Line Count: 57
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0f32105c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 LONDON 1330
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1622599
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALDERMASTON PLUTONIUM PLANT CLOSED
TAGS: TECH, MNUC, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0f32105c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014